

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S MEETING
May 4, 2011**

Prior to the meeting, the Honorable Paula A. Roscioli accepted an invitation to speak with the Board to discuss the topic of the Bar Association's payment of law clerk dues. The Board was grateful to Judge Roscioli for taking the time to speak with us regarding this matter.

The meeting, held at Marblehead Chowder House in Easton, was then called to order by President Kerry Scott Freidl at 7:45 P.M.

ATTENDEES (as marked):

Officers

- Kerry Scott Freidl, President**
- Victor E. Scomillio, President Elect**
- Stanley J. Margle, III, Vice-President**
- Christopher M. Reid, Treasurer**
- Abraham P. Kassis, Secretary**
- Jacqueline M. Taschner, Past President**

Board Members

- Kevin F. Danyi**
- Michael P. Shay**
- Alyssa Lopiano Reilly**
- Samuel P. Murray**
- Jessica Frisch Moyer**
- Matthew C. Potts**
- Robert M. Donchez**

Executive Director

- Mary Beth Leeson**

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Chris Reid to approve the Minutes from the April 6, 2011 Meeting. The Motion was seconded by Robert Donchez. Motion to Approve the Minutes passed.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Board was advised of the following correspondences that were received since the last meeting:

-A thank you card was received from Margie Coffin for the donation given to Memorial-Sloane Kettering on behalf of her husband and recently deceased member, William Coffin. We also received a letter from Memorial-Sloane Kettering directly thanking the NCBA for the donation.

-A correspondence was received from Edna Peil thanking the NCBA for a copy of the transcript of the memorial services for her late husband and Association member, Norman Peil.

-The Association received a note of gratitude from President Judge F. P. Kimberly McFadden for the recently held Reception for the Court at the Northampton County Country Club.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Christopher Reid read the Treasurer's Report to the Board. A motion to approve was made by Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly and seconded by Samuel Murray. The report was approved and is on file at the County Bar office.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Mary Beth Leeson presented the following:

-The opinion of the Board was sought as to whether the membership would be interested in undertaking a plebiscite on the retention of Judge Simpson for the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania. His present term expires in December, 2011. President Freidl will contact Judge Simpson to gauge his interest.

V. PROGRAMS

A meeting was recently held by the Long-Range Planning Committee regarding the options for the Association to acquire new property. Jessica Frisch Moyer reported that the Committee located a building on West 5th Street which could serve as a facility for not only holding CLE courses, but also Board and Quarterly Meetings. The Board was advised that the current asking price was approximately \$229,000.00, but there was an expectation that the price

could be reduced significantly. The only other concern that was discussed regarding expenditure would be an obvious need to perform renovations on the property, which does have a parking lot. Jackie Taschner made a motion to authorize the chairman of the Long-Range Planning Committee to negotiate the terms of a purchase agreement with the seller subject to the approval of both the Board and the Membership. Said motion was seconded by Alyssa Lopian Reilly and passed. An additional Motion was made by Jackie Taschner to authorize the hiring of a requisite professional to plan and propose required renovations to said building, with compensation of said services to not exceed a budgeted \$2,500.00. Said Motion was seconded by Jessica Frisch Moyer. The Motion passed with one nay from Alyssa Lopiano-Reilly.

A discussion was held regarding the impending retirement at the end of this year of the Honorable Michael V. Franciosa, and what action and gesture would be taken by the Association to honor his service to our Bar. Ideas were briefly discussed and tabled for the next meeting.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

President Freidl advised the Board that there would be a planned scheduling of a meeting with our local legislators on July 20, 2011 to discuss the issue of current legislation being proposed by the publication of legal notices and the bar journals.

A correspondence was received from Board Member Kevin S. Danyi regarding personal matters impacting his ability to attend the monthly meetings. His correspondence suggested that he would have great difficulty attending meetings for the rest of the final year of his elected term on the Board of Governors. The other Board members were appreciative of the notice and were happy to accommodate being flexible with Attorney Danyi's ability to attend the remainder of the meetings scheduled for his term.

A correspondence was received from Attorney Jon Acklen regarding current legislation being proposed that would have a major effect on joint tortfeasor law in the Commonwealth. Attorney Acklen requested that the Board vote to have our County join with other Zone II delegates to show support for SB 500, which changes the current status of joint-several liability to the extent that no defendant would be required to pay a higher percentage of the damages than the amount of liability assessed against a plaintiff, and not SB 2. The Board refrained from voting on any said motion, and instead decided to have Attorney Acklen present information on the topic at the May 19, 2011 Quarterly Meeting to the membership. It was decided that it would be more appropriate to have the membership discuss and vote on such a motion at that time.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Michael Shay and seconded by Stan Margle, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A.P. Kassis', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

ABRAHAM P. KASSIS
Secretary